



Celebrating 50 Years

of the Indiana Commission for Higher Education

Historical Overview of Higher Education in Indiana

Liz Walker, Assistant Commissioner & Chief Strategy Officer

Thursday, November 18, 2021

INDIANA COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

- ▶ Created in 1971 by an act of the General Assembly, signed into law by then Governor Edgar Whitcomb
- ▶ Indiana Commission for Higher Education was charged with **“creating a master plan for postsecondary education in Indiana.”**



INDIANA COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

- ▶ While the Commission's responsibilities have increased in recent years, our focus remains on serving Hoosier students:
 - ▶ Define the educational missions of public colleges and universities;
 - ▶ Plan and to coordinate Indiana's state-supported system of higher education;
 - ▶ Approve or disapprove any capital projects, new branches, extensions, new degree programs, colleges or schools;
 - ▶ Make budget recommendations to governing boards, the Governor and the General Assembly;
 - ▶ (2012) Distribute student financial aid from state aid programs.

FORMATION OF INDIANA'S PUBLIC COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

1800_s—1900_s



PUBLIC COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES



“Jefferson Academy”
or **Vincennes University** was
founded

1801



“Indiana State
Normal School” or
Indiana State University was
founded

1865



“Indiana State
Normal School
Eastern Division”
was founded

1918

“Indiana Seminary”
or **Indiana University**
was founded



Purdue University
was founded



PUBLIC COLLEGES & UNIVERSITIES



“ISU Eastern”
becomes **Ball State
Teachers College**

1922



“Indiana Vocational
Technical College” or
**Ivy Tech State
College** was founded

1963



“Indiana State
University-
Evansville” was
founded

1965



“ISU-Evansville”
becomes the
**University of
Southern Indiana**

1985

The **Indiana
Commission for
Higher Education**
was established

1971



FORMATION OF THE INDIANA COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

1965–1980



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
HIGHER EDUCATION

HIGHER EDUCATION IN 1965

- ▶ The Higher Education Act of 1965 was created to strengthen the educational resources of our colleges and universities and to provide financial assistance for students
- ▶ In 1967, at the urging of Governor Branigan, the legislature established the State Policy Commission on Post High School Education to make recommendations to the 1969 session
- ▶ Governor Edgar Whitcomb held the “Governor’s Conference on Higher Education and Urban Problems” in 1969 in response to the 1965 Act and these new calls for better alignment of Indiana’s higher education system

GOVERNOR'S CONFERENCE, 1969

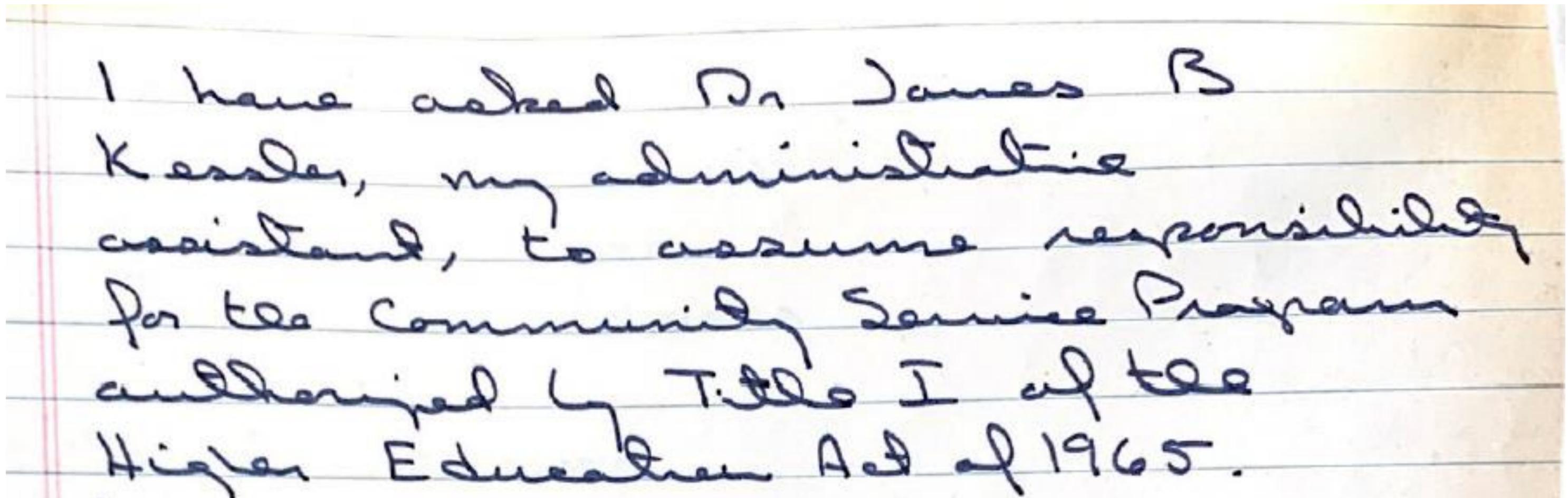
Comments by Edgar D. Whitcomb Governor of Indiana

We are deeply concerned about the problems which exist in the cities of our State. We intend to do something about these problems. We take President Nixon at his word when he says that he intends to restore to the states the fiscal power to solve local problems. Counting on his support to help us in our resolve to preserve Indiana's independence in dealing with its own internal affairs, we will cooperate with the federal government to find Hoosier solutions to Hoosier problems with Hoosier money collected by the federal government in Indiana. In our endeavor we will use all appropriate means available. These means include the use of Title I funds as provided for in The Higher Education Act of 1965. We will use such funds to find practical solutions to the problems which plague Indiana's cities and towns. My administration has applied for and received these funds. Using these funds and other programs authorized by the congress, I will establish by executive order an Office of Community Affairs to coordinate all federal and State programs which can be useful in solving problems. Some of these federal programs are as follows: Community Service and Continuing Education (Higher Education Act of 1965 - Title I); The Cooperative Area Manpower Planning System (Manpower Development and Training Act of 1962); Community Development Training (Housing Act of 1964 - Title VIII); State Office of Economic Opportunity (Economic Opportunity Act of 1964); and Model Cities State Office (Housing Act of 1954, sec. 701). We have already received grants for the first three programs and applications are pending for the latter two.



DR. JAMES B. KESSLER

- ▶ Governor Edgar Whitcomb charged his administrative assistant to develop a state plan, and he later became the first Commissioner



I have asked Dr. James B. Kessler, my administrative assistant, to assume responsibility for the Community Service Program authorized by Title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965.

STATE PLAN, 1969

Submission of State Plan. The State of Indiana through the Office of the Governor, hereinafter referred to as "the State Agency," hereby submits to the U. S. Commissioner of Education for approval its State Plan for participation in the grant program authorized by Title I of the Higher Education Act of 1965; Community Service and Continuing Education Program, (P.L. 89-329, approved November 8, 1965).



FORMING THE COMMISSION, 1971

a. The name and address of the State Agency for the administration of the state plan is:

THE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
IN INDIANA

215 NORTH SENATE AVENUE

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

Correspondence with respect to all matters pertaining to the State plan should be directed to: Dr. James B. Kesdler, Commissioner for Higher Education (Indiana). The State Agency will be the sole agency responsible for administration of the plan.

FORMATIVE YEARS

INDIANA COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

MINUTES

First Meeting, August 12, 1971, 10:00 a.m.

Mr. W. Calvert Brand opened the meeting at 10:00 a.m., August 12, 1971, by requesting that Mr. John Benbow act as temporary Chairman for the purpose of conducting the organizational meeting of the Commission.

Dr. Richard Gibb as

permanent Commissioner and the subsequent naming of Dr. Carl Lutz as Deputy Commissioner and David McKinney as Associate Commissioner for Finance.

DR. RICHARD GIBB

- ▶ Dr. Richard Gibb was appointed as the second Commissioner in March 1974—he served in that role for three years
- ▶ Dr. Gibb grew up in the Midwest and attended the University of Illinois
- ▶ After he left the commission, he served as president of the University of Idaho for the remainder of his career from 1977-1989

DR. GEORGE WEATHERSBY

- ▶ Dr. George Weathersby became the third Commissioner of Higher Education in 1977
- ▶ Recruited several staffers from the research and analysis unit at NCHEMS, including Wayne Kirschling as deputy his commissioner, Kent Weldon and Dr. Ken Sauer 😊
- ▶ George held faculty and administrative appointments at Harvard and UC Berkeley

1965-1980



Passage of the **Higher Education Act of 1965**; SSACI was founded

1965



1969

Governor's Conference; legislation which led to CHE's creation



The **Indiana Commission for Higher Education** was established

1971



1974

Dr. Richard Gibb appointed as the second Commissioner



Dr. George Weathersby appointed as the third Commissioner

1977

50 YEARS OF THE INDIANA COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

1980–2000



INDIANA COMMISSION *for*
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1980-1990



Shift on views of student financial aid from “gift for a few” to “support for all”

1980



Commission released **Future Directions** “planning initiatives” and tracked progress annually

1985



Jobs for the Future report cites 85 percent of new jobs require postsecondary

1989

1983

Clyde Ingle appointed as the fourth Commissioner



1985

Committed to a comprehensive **fact book** of higher education data



1987

Recommended that **financial aid awards** “need not be consecutive”



CLYDE INGLE

- ▶ Clyde Ingle was appointed as Indiana's fourth Commissioner in December of 1983 and served for nearly 12 years
- ▶ Clyde came to Indiana from Minnesota Office of Higher Education and after leaving the Commission retired to North Carolina
- ▶ According to Minnesota colleagues, we learned that he would relax after a board meeting by heading to the Boundary water and camping out with his family for the weekend

FUTURE DIRECTIONS OF INDIANA HIGHER ED



II. INDIANA'S GOALS FOR PUBLIC INVESTMENT IN HIGHER EDUCATION

In assessing Indiana's present and future investment in higher education, the Commission for Higher Education has assumed five primary goals, as follows:

1. Access and Choice - Indiana should provide opportunities for its citizens to pursue the programs and campus experiences which best meet their needs.
2. Institutional and Programmatic Diversity - Indiana higher education should include distinctive institutions which, as a system offer a comprehensive range of programs.
3. Maintaining and Improving Quality - Indiana should enhance the quality of the higher education it provides.
4. Basic and Applied Research - Indiana should provide sustained support for both basic and applied research.
5. Meeting Community and Industrial Needs - Indiana postsecondary education should serve the needs of communities, business and industry, agriculture, and other segments of Indiana society.

No priority order among these goals has been established, and with limited resources available there is inevitably tension between and among these goals. It is necessary, however, that in evaluating the value of public investment in higher education and plotting future directions a common set of goals be agreed upon.

In considering these goals during 1985, the Commission for Higher Education has reviewed three planning initiatives with the institutions of higher education and various interested constituencies. These planning initiatives are:

- o Reevaluating and improving access to higher education opportunities in Indiana
- o Refining institutional missions and,
- o Assessment and focusing of state funding.

A review and discussion of these initiatives has led to the identification of areas of concern and to a series of conclusions and recommendations regarding future directions for Indiana higher education for 1986-96. A summary of the analysis is provided in this report, with background papers used in planning discussions cited in Appendix A.

EARLY TALKS OF EDUCATION VALUE

- ▶ In 1985, it was clear that **“increased participation in higher education is critical to the future of the state”** despite social attitudes the higher education was “unnecessary”

Addressing Motivational Barriers to Going to College

Ultimately, the decision to participate in higher education depends upon the individual's own motivation. Conventional wisdom has been that Indiana's relatively low college participation rate has resulted from a social attitude which regards higher education as unnecessary for a successful life and career. There is general agreement that the economic circumstances and lifestyle which may have contributed to this presumed attitude are rapidly changing, and that increased participation in higher education is critical to the future of the state. As part of its reevaluation of access in Indiana, the Commission -- in consultation with the institutions -- in 1985 sponsored a survey of citizen attitudes toward higher education. The findings show that two-thirds of Indiana residents feel that a college education is "very important." This finding is almost identical to the results of a Gallup poll of national attitudes toward college education.

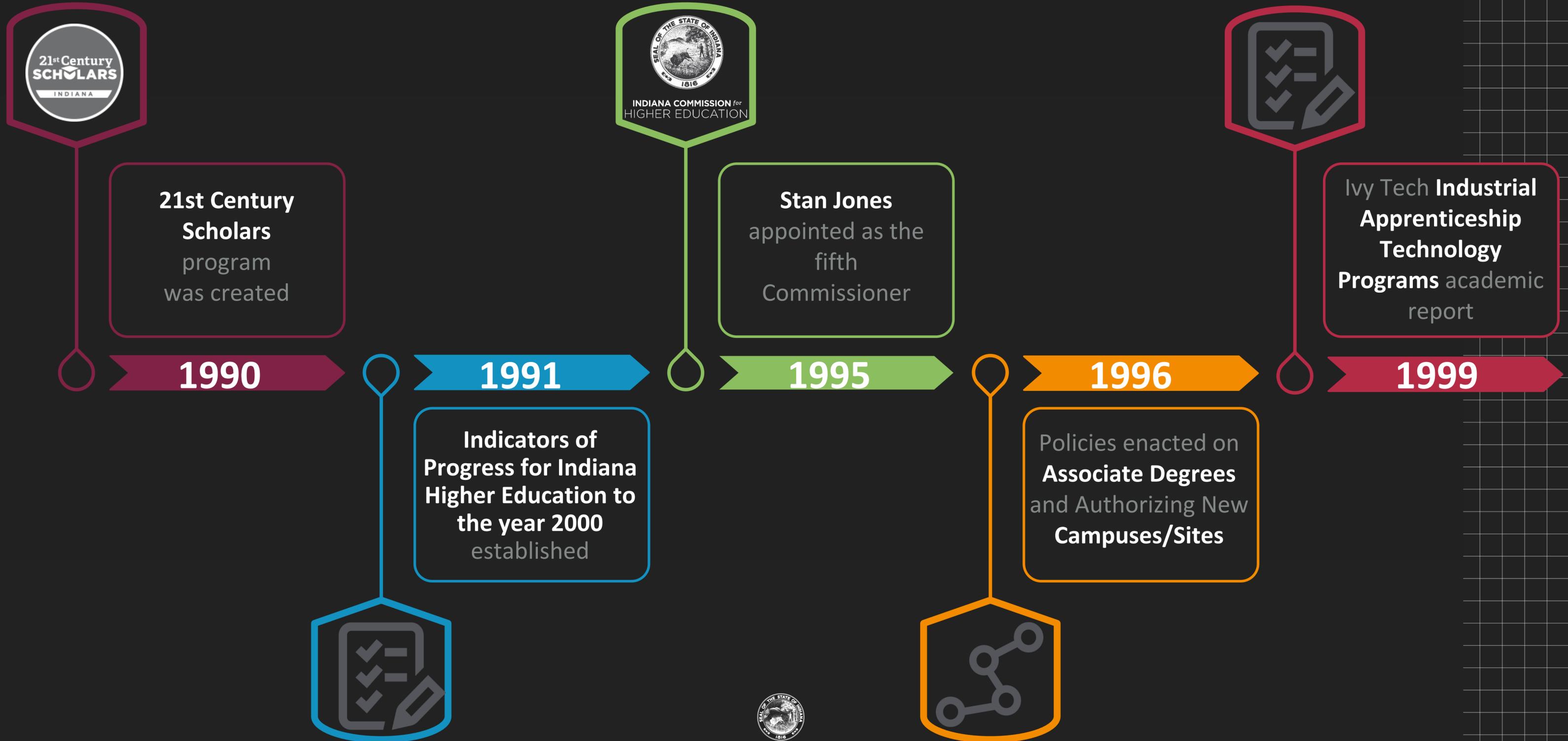
Conclusion: Indiana citizens seem to value higher education as highly as other Americans; thus, refuting a prevailing myth that Hoosiers do not place as high a value on higher education as the rest of the nation. Motivation factors affecting college going rates are a complex issue requiring continued analysis and discussion.

Recommendation:

1. That in 1986 the Commission for Higher Education continue to survey Indiana attitudes toward higher education in order to understand better college-going behavior in Indiana.



1990-2000



II. Indicators of Progress for Indiana Postsecondary Education to the Year 2000

Reports on Indiana higher education's progress with respect to state-level performance objectives began with the 1985-87 biennium. After several years of assessing progress by looking at previous accomplishment, the state now seeks to assess progress by looking ahead, toward targets that define success.

Indicators of progress for Indiana higher education have been identified in areas of greatest concern. For each state-level indicator of progress, precise statements have been developed. These include longer term objectives or targets for the year 2000 and shorter term objectives or benchmarks¹ for interim periods of time.

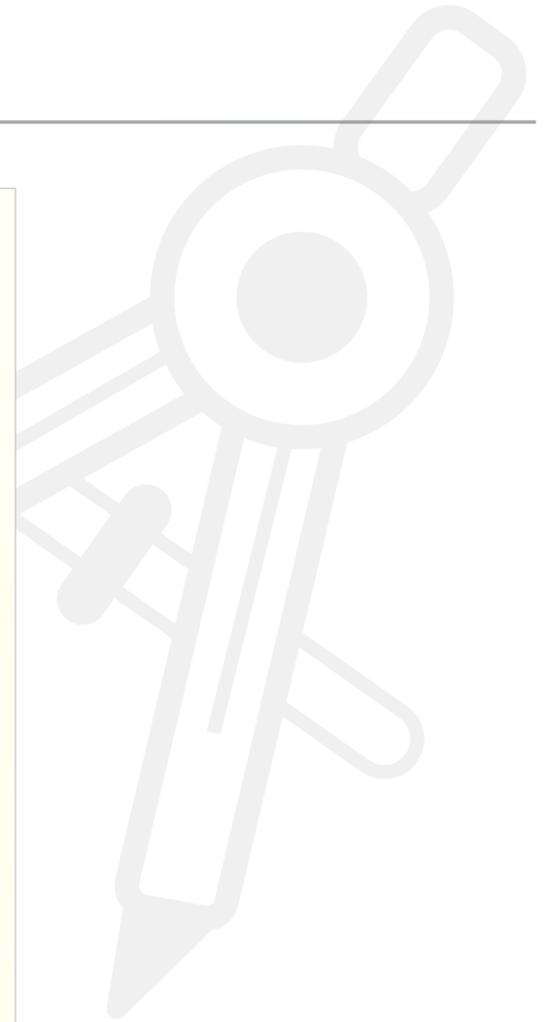
A separate Technical Report is available which explains the rationale and calculations behind the state-level indicators of progress. Each narrative in the Technical Report also includes a comparison of state-level indicators with pertinent institutional measures.

1. INDIANA POSTSECONDARY PARTICIPATION

LONG-TERM OBJECTIVE: By 2000, Indiana's college participation rate should exceed the national average.

To achieve this,

BENCHMARK: By 1995, Indiana's college participation rate should exceed 44 percent.



STAN JONES

- ▶ Stan Jones was appointed as Indiana's fifth Commissioner in 1995
- ▶ Stan authored legislation that created our marquee financial aid program, the 21st Century Scholars program
- ▶ Another key accomplishment as Commissioner was the establishment of the Ivy Tech Community College System
- ▶ He served as a state legislator (elected at the age of 24) and as a top aide to Governor Evan Bayh
- ▶ After leaving the Commission he founded Complete College America

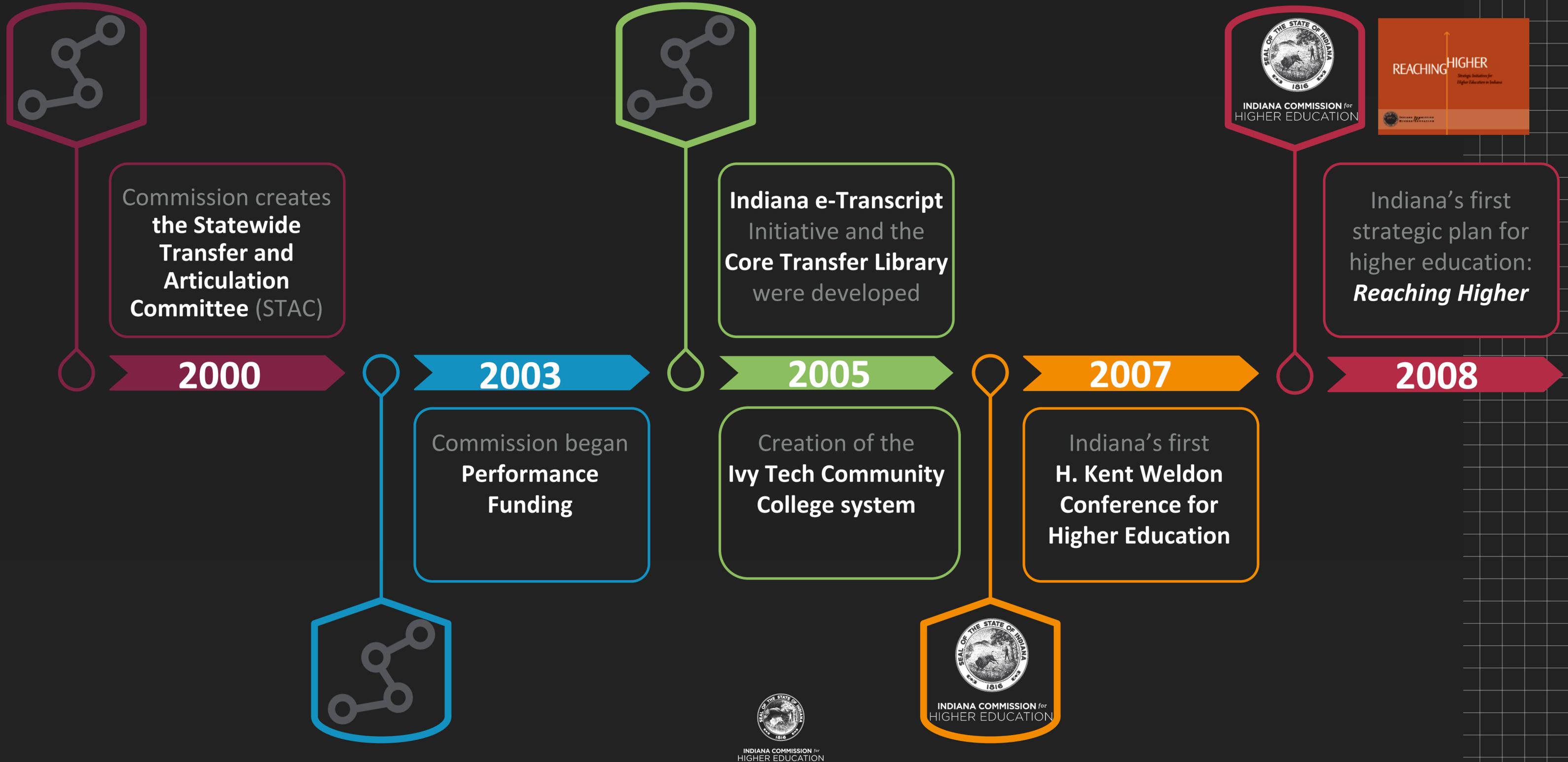
50 YEARS OF THE INDIANA COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

2000–2020

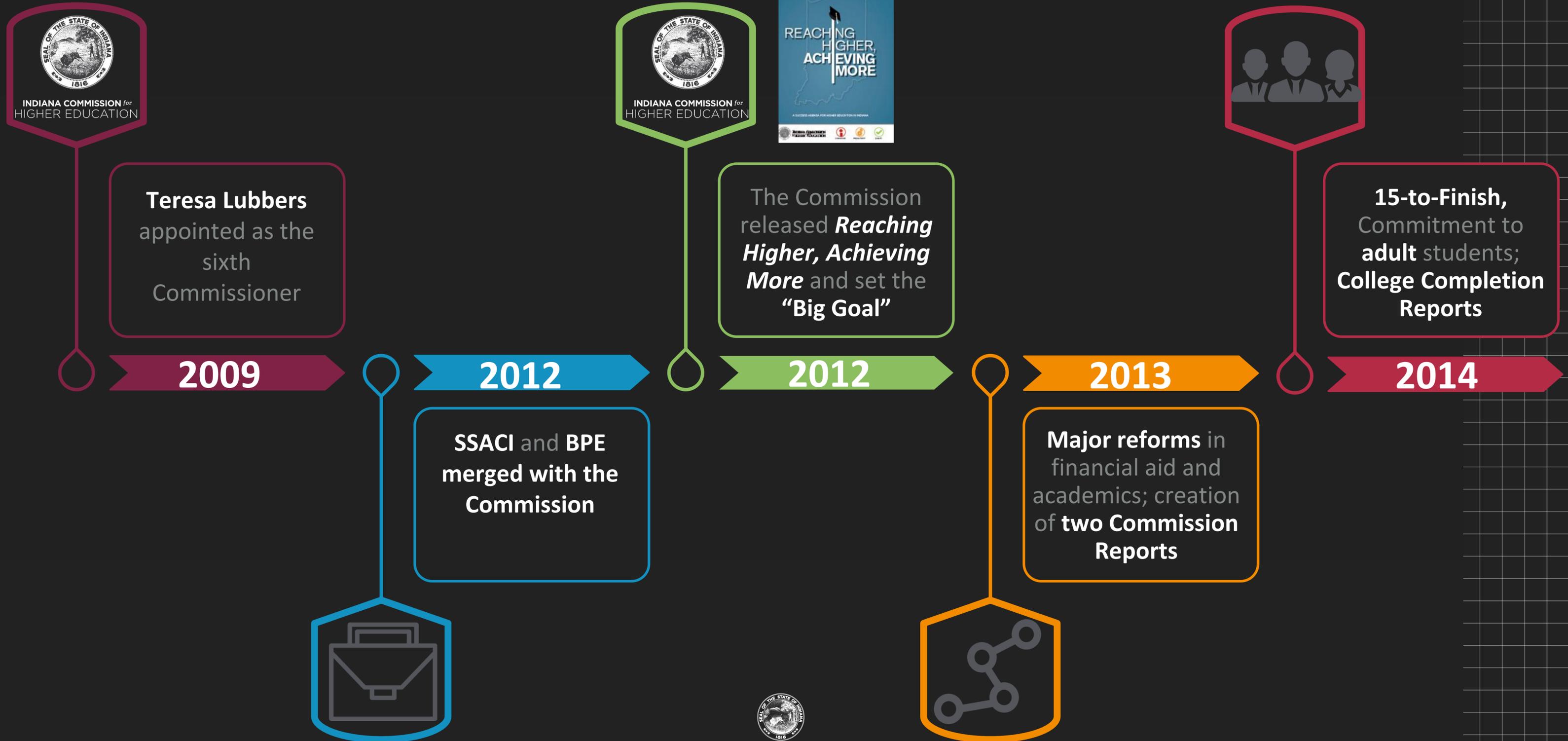


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2000-2008



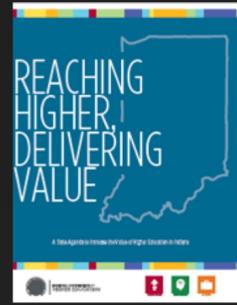
2009-2015



2013....WAS A BIG YEAR!

- ▶ Commission adopted a resolution to close the achievement gap
- ▶ “1348” Financial Aid Reforms including credit completion requirements and the creation of the (high school) Scholar Success Program.
- ▶ Academic reforms including the “Credit Creep” legislation, Degree map requirements, the creation of the Indiana College Core (formally STGEC) and Transfer Single Articulation Pathways (TSAPs)
- ▶ Introduction of Commission’s designed reports including the Return on Investment and College Readiness Reports.
- ▶ Ivy Tech Community College developed “corequisite model” for all remediation

2016-2020



The Commission released *Reaching Higher, Delivering Value*

2016

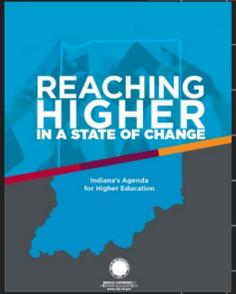
Next Generation Hoosier Educators Scholarship was created



College Equity Report; **College Scholar Success Program**

2018

Creation of the **Governor's Workforce Cabinet**



Release *Reaching Higher in a State of Change*

2020

30th Anniversary of the **21st Century Scholars program**



2021



- ▶ 21st Century Scholars Report
- ▶ Affordability Report
- ▶ Transfer Report

- ▶ Education Value Campaign
- ▶ Career Relevance in Education
- ▶ Continued alignment with key partners



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